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PATENT

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J. Smith

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: GUNNAR-MARCEL KLEIN ET AL.

Serial No.: 09/555,140

Group Art Unit: 1723

Filed: AUGUST 3, 2000

Examiner: M. SAVAGE

Title: FILTER ELEMENT

### AMENDMENT

**Box Fee Amendment**  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

December 20, 2001

Sir:

The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in response to the Office Action dated July 20, 2001. This Amendment is accompanied by a Petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) for a Two-month Extension of Time and a check in the amount of \$400.00 in payment of the required extension fee. A marked-up copy of the amendments is attached, with deletions indicated by brackets and additions indicated by underlining.

### IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 14, 23 and 24 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend Claims 13, 16, 21 and 35 as follows:

RECEIVED  
DEC 26 2001  
TC 1700

13. (Amended) A filter element comprising a plurality of filter medium layers joined together such that a fluid to be filtered flows successively through the layers in a flow direction commencing with an inflow layer and ending with a discharge layer, wherein successive layers in said flow direction exhibit an